

Department of Health and Hospitals Office of Public Health

The Advice for Colleges, Universities, and Students about Ebola in West Africa webpage has been posted to the CDC website, which can be accessed at:

http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/page/advice-for-colleges-universities-and-students-about-ebola-in-west-africa

CDC recommends people, including college students, avoid non-essential travel to the affected region.

Advice to student health centers is to follow the Guidance for Clinicians in US Healthcare Facilities. CDC is not recommending colleges and universities isolate or quarantine students, faculty, or staff based on travel history alone. The following points come from the CDC webpage:

- Colleges and universities should identify students, faculty, and staff who have been in countries where Ebola outbreaks are occurring within the past 21 days and should conduct a risk assessment with each identified person to determine his or her level of risk exposure.
- All students, faculty, and staff who have been in these countries within the past 21 days should be given instructions for health monitoring.
- If a student, faculty, or staff member has had a high- or low-risk exposure, state or local public health authorities should be notified, and school officials should consult with public health authorities for guidance about how that person should be monitored. Anyone with a potential exposure should receive thorough education about immediately reporting symptoms and staying away from other people if symptoms develop.
- In the event that a person who has had a high- or low-risk exposure develops symptoms consistent with Ebola, the person should be medically evaluated while following recommended infection control precautions.

Please see the CDC webpage for more information or contact Dr. Frank Welch at frank.welch@la.gov. Discuss exposure or report a suspected case by contacting the Office of Public Health at 504-568-8313 or after hours 800-256-2748.